

**Three soldiers and a civilian were returning to the installation from a nightclub at 0430 when the driver lost control of the vehicle and hit a tractor trailer truck.....**

## Mission: Late Night POV Driving

### Hazards

- Driver's propensity to speed
- Curved two-lane road at night
- Driver indiscipline
- Driver fatigue



### Results

- 2 Soldiers fatality injured
- 1 Soldier with minor injuries
- 1 Civilian with minor injuries
- 1992 BMW Destroyed
- Degraded unit morale

### Controls

- Composite risk management on & off duty
- Operate POV at recommend speed limits
- Leader engagement to prevent Soldier indiscipline

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A Sergeant, a Specialist, a Private First Class and a civilian went to a nightclub over sixty miles from their barracks on Thursday night. They departed the barracks at midnight, intending to return in time for physical training on Friday. They stayed at the club until approximately 0410. While driving back to make first formation, the Sergeant driver/car owner lost control of the vehicle and crashed into the side of a tractor-trailer truck. The vehicle was caught under the rear of the trailer and the right side was crushed, fatally injuring the two right side occupants. The passengers were all wearing seatbelts and no alcohol was involved.

### Findings:

- The driver lost situational awareness due to fatigue and wet road conditions.
- The vehicle was traveling in excess of 99 mph while the suggested speed for the road was 80mph, wet road conditions dictated a much slower speed.
- The driver had been counseled and restricted to the installation for previous late night/early morning partying that had caused him to miss formations on two prior Friday mornings.
- These soldiers and others at the installation routinely made this late night trip to the distant city prior to a duty day.

### Recommendations:

- Educate Soldiers on the adverse impact of driving at night, in adverse weather conditions, and recognizing their driving limitations.
- Identify, counsel, and monitor Soldiers who display high risk behavior.
- Engage soldiers about their off duty activities. Mentor small unit leaders to ensure they understand that Composite Risk Management is a 24-7 lifestyle.